

AC 4457 (1) MANSFIELD

BOROUGH OF MANSFIELD.



ANNUAL REPORT ON THE
SANITARY CONDITIONS ^{of} _{the} DISTRICT
AND
HOUSING REPORT

For the year ended 31st December, 1924,

By
JAMES E. WILSON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

PRINTED BY KING & BIRD, LEEMING STREET, MANSFIELD.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE.



Chairman :

Alderman D. H. MALTBY, J.P.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR.

Aldermen :

J. MARRIOTT, J.P.

W. SINGLETON, J.P.

Councillors :

T. CLARKE,

J. McNAMARA,

H. DANIEL,

E. W. MELLORS,

A. HARDY,

J. E. ROBINSON,

T. MARTIN,

J. L. WILSON.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

STAFF.—The Members of the Staff employed in the Sanitary and Public Health Work of the Town, under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health, are as follows:—

Chief Sanitary Inspector ... BERNARD ALLMAN, Cert. R.S.I., Cert.
in Meat Inspection.

Assistant Inspector ... HERBERT ALLSOP, Cert. R.S.I.

Assistant Inspector ... WM. T. T. GLASSBROOK, Cert. R.S.I.

Senior Health Visitor ... MISS M. BODEN, Cert. R.S.I., C.M.B.,
3 years' general training, H.V. Cert.

Health Visitor ... MISS HUNT, 3 years' general training,
C.M.B. Cert.

Health Visitor ... MISS P. GOODWIN, 3 years' general
training, C.M.B. Cert.

(Appointed to succeed Miss White;
commenced duty 11th June, 1923.)

Disinfector ... GEORGE BURTON.

Clerk ... E. V. HARDWICK; also acts as Labora-
tory Assistant.

Clerk ... MISS D. ROBERTS, half time to Mater-
nity and Child Welfare and half
to School Medical Inspection work.



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**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
EXCHANGE ROW,
MANSFIELD,**

May, 1925.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Mansfield.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit herewith an Annual Report dealing with the Sanitary Administration and Vital Statistics of the Borough for the year 1924.

This is again a comparatively brief Report on the lines laid down by Circular 359.

The chief infectious incidence I would draw your attention to in this Report is the occurrence of Small-pox.

To deal effectively with this disease imposes a very great strain on the Public Health Department. Much of the work of following up contacts is carried out by the sanitary staff, and in this connection an extremely large number of visits had to be paid. All of this work has been most thoroughly and conscientiously carried out.

During this period I have received—and beg to acknowledge—the loyal assistance of every member of my staff. The co-operation of the general practitioners in the district has also been of special assistance to me in dealing with this serious outbreak. The local press have also rendered very valuable service in making public the facts regarding vaccination, and giving due publicity to the prevalence of the disease and the need for taking all necessary precautions to prevent its spread.

I must again acknowledge the great interest taken by you in my work, as well as the courtesy and consideration shown to me throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES E. WILSON.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Births and Birth-rate.

	Males	Females	TOTAL
Legitimate ...	474	446	920
Illegitimate ...	18	24	42
TOTALS ...	492	470	962

During the year 962 births were registered as belonging to the Borough.

The birth-rate for the Borough was 20.5 per 1,000 per annum, as compared with 21.9 in 1923.

The illegitimate birth-rate per 1,000 population per annum is 0.9.

The birth-rate compares favourably with that of the country as a whole, which is 18.8 per 1,000 per annum.

The "natural increase" or excess of births over deaths in 1924 was 501, as compared with 520 in the previous year. Further information with regard to births and deaths will be found in the section of this Report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare.

Deaths and Death-rate.

NETT DEATHS belonging to the Borough 461

DEATH-RATE 9.8 per 1,000 population.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
„ Whooping-cough (all ages)	7
„ Diarrhœa (under two years)	7

It is to be noted that no deaths occurred from Measles during the year.

In the course of the year under review 461 deaths were registered as belonging to the Borough, and the death-rate was 9.8 per 1,000

per annum, as compared with 10.6 per 1,000 in 1923. The death-rate is lower than that of England and Wales, which was 12.2 per 1,000 per annum.

The principal causes of death were as follows:—

Cause	Number	Rate per 1,000 population
Organic Heart Disease	52	1.1
Cancer and Malignant Disease ...	44	.94
Bronchitis	37	.74
Tuberculosis (all forms)	36	.72
Pneumonia	35	.70
Congenital Debility, etc.	34	.64
Violence	19	.40
Influenza	16	.34

Complete tabulation of the causes of death, will be found in Table III.

Infantile Mortality-rate (*i.e.*, deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births).

Legitimate	79.3
Illegitimate	119.0
	<hr/>
TOTAL	82.1

This infantile mortality-rate of 82.1 is less than that of last year by 10.8, but is higher than that of England and Wales, which is 75.0.

Complete tabulation of the causes of infantile mortality will be found in Table IV. A comparison of infantile mortality will be found in Table V.

The chief causes will be referred to in the section dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

These will be found in Table II. One case of Enteric Fever occurred during the year.

Notification of Tuberculosis.—71.4% of the deaths registered as due to Tuberculosis occurred in notified cases, so that the 28.6% of such cases had not previously been notified.

Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.—The number of Diphtheria cases occurring during the year was slightly above the average.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified were 137, as compared with 106 during the previous year. A large number of cases were under treatment in the Forest Hospital during the whole of the current twelve months.

On the whole the type of the disease observed has been more severe than in the preceding twelve months.

SMALL-POX.

General prevalence of the disease.—The Registrar-General's return of notifications covering the year 1924 shows that the total notifications of Small-pox throughout England and Wales were 3,784. The following are the notification figures for the past fourteen years:—

Year	Cases	Year	Cases
1911	289	1918	63
1912	121	1919	311
1913	113	1920	280
1914	65	1921	336
1915	93	1922	973
1916	159	1923	2,504
1917	7	1924	3,784
TOTAL	847	TOTAL	8,251

The large increase in this disease noted in 1923 and 1924 has occurred mainly in the area in which Mansfield is situated. During the year 1923 five cases occurred within the Borough.

During the year under review there were two minor outbreaks: four cases occurring between February and March, and three were notified during the latter end of May and the first week in June.

About the middle of July onwards several cases occurred, and these kept recurring almost continuously throughout the remainder of the year, the greatest number occurring in the months of November and December.

The total number of cases notified during the year was 85, and of these 46 were found amongst school children all of whom attended Public Elementary Schools, and all of whom were unvaccinated. The Schools affected will be found in the following Table:—

Name of School	Cases
Carter Lane	28
Rosemary	7
St. Peter's	3
Newgate Lane	3
Moor Lane	3
Broomhill Lane	1
St. Philip's	1
TOTAL ...	46

During the course of my school medical inspection work 1,784 school children were examined with regard to vaccination, and it was found that only 25% were vaccinated. This low figure provided, therefore, abundant material for the spread of the disease amongst children.

Of all persons attacked by the disease 10 only had been vaccinated. These were persons who had been vaccinated only in infancy, and their ages varied from 30 to 52 years, the average age being 41.8 years. It should be noted, therefore, that the vaccination of infancy

may prevent the occurrence of this disease in persons up to 30 years of age, while at the same time the protection period is not usually so long as this.

The ages of all persons affected ranged from seven months to 55 years of age.

The majority of the cases were living in the area surrounding Carter Lane and Newgate Lane.

Character of the disease.—The general type of the disease noted has been extremely mild compared with that of previous outbreaks. The usual history of the case is that after a short period marked by symptoms of feverishness, pains about the body and general malaise, there is a rapid fall in temperature accompanied by a vesicular rash. The general distribution of the rash affects those parts of the body as seen in the more severe types of the disease, face, arms, wrists, palm of hand, sole of foot. The rash may remain discrete or run together (confluent type).

Control of the disease.—All authorities are agreed that vaccination is the only method of preventing the occurrence of the disease. When a case has occurred the general measures resorted to are:—

- (1) The isolation of the patient in an Infectious Hospital;
- (2) The vaccination of contacts and their supervision for a period of at least 16 days.

All the cases occurring in the Borough were removed for treatment to the City of Nottingham Isolation Hospital at Bulwell Forest. The average duration in hospital has been rather more than three weeks. Whilst some cases have been much more severe than others, all have made a complete recovery.

Very valuable assistance has been given in regard to the prevention of the disease by the co-operation of the local Press.

Throughout the year Chicken-pox has been notifiable to me, and this has assisted very considerably in the prevention of Small-pox by

enabling me to visit all doubtful cases, and to confer with the medical attendant with a view to establishing a diagnosis.

Perhaps the most constantly occurring feature of the disease is a history of definite illness prior to the onset of the rash. In Chicken-pox the occurrence of a rash is often the first sign of illness observed.

The mildness of the present type of the disease has constituted one of the most difficult factors in its control. Within a day or so of the appearance of the rash the patient feels well in his general health—thus an adult will at this stage wish to go back to work, and the child will resume association with his playmates, at that very time when probably the infectivity of the disease is at its height.

Missed Cases.—No doubt there have been several “missed” cases contributing to the spread of the disease, and when one has seen what a mild form the disease has in many instances assumed, one cannot wonder that attention has not been called to every case. In those instances where several members of the family have manifested the symptoms of the disease at about the same time this has been due to a previous “missed” case. Several such instances occurred where five or six members of the family were affected at the same time, and in each of these instances of group-infection it was found that about two weeks previously some member of the household had suffered from “a few spots.”

Small-pox without rash.—In two households where several members of the family exhibited classical symptoms of Small-pox, one or two unprotected persons were found to have had the general constitutional symptoms (headache, pain in back, etc.), but did not show at any time any rash. After vaccinating such persons the vaccination did not take, and it must be presumed that these were actual instances of the disease occurring without manifestation of rash. The occurrence of such a mild form will show how difficult

this type of disease is to control, and it is quite possible that such cases as these may be infective to other persons.

Vaccination of Contacts.—I have not had much difficulty in persuading contacts to avail themselves of the protection afforded by vaccination. Of 379 contacts in connection with the 85 cases I found that 79 only were sufficiently protected by vaccination. Of the 300 insufficiently protected, vaccination was carried out in 296 cases. Of these, 276 vaccinations were successful, the remaining 20 giving a negative result. The remaining four were not vaccinated—in two cases owing to serious illness and owing to an insuperable objection to having this done in the other two cases.

The list of contacts given to me must often be incomplete, as the public will not realise the extreme importance of following up *every* person who has been exposed to the infection.

At the same time the 296 persons dealt with as contacts were all ostensible candidates for the disease, and in no single instance did any of these develop it.

The preventive value of vaccination has in these figures obtained very ample confirmation.

When compared with the opposite side of the picture, as described under “missed” cases, no reasonable mind could question the value of vaccination as a protective measure.

“Prevention is better than cure” is a general proposition to which all will give a ready assent, but why its application to vaccination should be doubted is a matter of strange inconsistency. Those who are intimately associated with the problem of controlling Small-pox have no doubts in regard to its efficacy.

The estimated cost of treatment of patients suffering from Small-pox was £1,715 : 17 : 0.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

Nursing in the Home. (a) General.—The Local Authority have arranged for the provision of nurses through the Mansfield and District Nursing Association, in all necessitous cases unable to attend the Clinic of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. (b) No home nursing assistance was provided for infectious disease during 1924. Supervision is, however, exercised over cases not admitted to hospital.

Midwives.—There are 12 practising midwives in the Borough; none of these are subsidised by the Local Authority. Their supervision is controlled by the County Medical Officer of Health.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The following Clinics exist in the town :—

- 1.—Two Infant Welfare Centres under the Local Authority.
- 2.—One School Clinic under the Education Committee.
- 3.—One Tuberculosis Dispensary under the Nottinghamshire County Council.
- 4.—One Venereal Disease Clinic under the Nottinghamshire County Council.

Consultations and treatment are provided at the above by the respective Authorities.

Every assistance has been rendered in all instances where patients have been sent for consultation or treatment to the Centres controlled by the Nottinghamshire County Council.

HOSPITALS.

- 1.—MANSFIELD GENERAL HOSPITAL, under the control of a Voluntary Committee.
- 2.—RANSOM SANATORIUM, RATCHER HILL, for Tuberculosis, under the Notts. County Council.
- 3.—FOREST ISOLATION HOSPITAL, for Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, etc., under the Local Authority.
- 4.—SMALL-POX HOSPITAL, under the Local Authority.
- 5.—POOR LAW INFIRMARY, under the control of the Guardians.

A Maternity Bed is maintained by the Local Authority at the General Hospital for complicated maternity cases.

There is no special institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children in the district other than that provided by the Poor Law Infirmary.

There is, however, the *Mansfield and District Association for the Help and Protection of Girls*, which endeavours to secure the admission of unmarried mothers to outside institutions.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) *Infectious Cases*.—An Ambulance is provided by the Local Authority for infectious cases.

(b) *Other Cases*.—An Ambulance is provided by the British Red Cross, and maintained by voluntary contributions, for accidents and non-infectious cases.

LABORATORY WORK.

During the year the bacteriological examination of water was carried out by Dr. Topley, of the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, and quarterly examinations from each of the wells at Clipstone and Rainworth were made. These were in every instance quite satisfactory.

The following is a list of the bacteriological examinations performed in the Laboratory at the Public Health Offices during the year 1924.

The work was carried out by Mr. E. V. Hardwick, under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health :—

			Positive	Negative	TOTAL
Diphtheria	...	...	88	681	769
T.B. Sputum	...	...	7	13	20
Ringworm	...	...	3	2	5
Anthrax	...	...	6	3	9
Gonorrhœa	...	...	3	2	5
Enteric Fever	...	...	0	9	9
Miscellaneous	...	...	14	12	26
			—	—	—
TOTALS	...	...	121	722	843
			—	—	—

The number of such examinations is much larger than those of 1923 when 592 specimens were examined.

Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin.—This is supplied for the use of practitioners in necessitous cases.

Supply of Disinfectants.—A standard disinfectant is issued on application in 12-oz. bottles for home disinfection in all houses where Tuberculosis or other infectious disease is present.

LOCAL ACTS AND ADOPTIVE ACTS.

There are two Local Acts in force;—

The Mansfield Corporation Act, 1901.

The Mansfield Corporation Act, 1905.

These contain sanitary provisions very similar to those of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

The following Acts have been adopted by this Authority:—

Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, sections 6 and 7.

Order of the Local Government Board, dated 6th December, 1889.

Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889—

Adopted 1st January, 1890.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890—

Adopted 1st July, 1892.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, parts 2, 3, 4 and 5—

Adopted 1st July, 1892.

Baths and Wash-houses Acts—

Adopted 9th November, 1892.

Private Street Works Act, 1892—

Adopted 25th March, 1894.

Notification of Births Act, 1907—

Adopted 1st January, 1909.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, sections 21, 22 and 32 (Part II.); 35, 46 and 50 (Part III.); 63 and 64 (Part IV.); and 95 (Part X.)—

Adopted 13th January, 1922.

Bye-laws are in force regarding new streets and buildings, the cleansing of footways and pavements, offensive trades, slaughter-houses, common lodging-houses, sanitary conveniences, public baths, pleasure grounds, tents, vans and sheds.

Bye-laws re “Houses let in Lodgings” were approved during the year.

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order of 1885 are in force.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

DEAR SIR,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my tenth Annual Report.

General Sanitation.—A large amount of repair work has been done, including much that was outstanding at the end of the year 1923. This is very satisfactory.

Conversion.—A joint contributory scheme by the Corporation and Owners has now been formulated, by which it is expected that most of the pail-closets in the Borough will be converted.

The following statement gives the particulars of unsatisfactory methods of sewage and refuse disposal still remaining in the Borough:—

					Premises supplied
Number of privies	...	...	...	72	86
„ pail closets		...	...	368	398
„ waste-water closets			...	56	56
„ ashpits	...	...	..	360	615

The conversion to recognised sanitary types of closets and ashpits during the last two years has been as follows:—

Year		Privies converted to W.C.'s	Pail closets converted to W.C.'s	Waste-water closets converted to W.C.'s	Ashpits replaced by regulation dustbins
1923	...	1	1	—	72
1924	...	15	—	—	45

Milk Supply.—The number of milch cows kept in the Borough during the year practically remain the same as last year, as will be seen by the following Table:—

		1923	1924
Number of cowsheds in use in the Borough		38	38
„ milch cows in the Borough	...	242	243
„ milk purveyors...	... ..	52	53
„ milk wholesalers	... ..	33	35

During the year 192 inspections were conducted in regard to the premises of purveyors of milk.

During the year samples of milk have been tested for the presence of dirt. When found dirty a letter has been sent to the purveyor and passed on by him to the producer. In most cases this has resulted in the farmer taking more precautions.

Meat and Food Inspection.—Much consideration and time has been devoted to this work, with good results, as will be seen from a perusal of the summary submitted herewith.

Yours faithfully,

BERNARD ALLMAN.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE, 1924.

Summary of work done, including that in connection with House-to-House Inspection on informal or statutory notices, etc., served for the abatement of nuisances, etc., as the result of inspections:—

	Number of Defects, etc., remedied on :	
	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices
Drains amended, repaired or re-constructed...	344	21
Drains, w.c.'s and gullies cleansed	646	11
Fall pipes and eaves spouts cleansed or repaired ...	135	30
W.C.'s and privies repaired	257	30
Additional w.c.'s provided	—	—
Privies converted into w.c.'s	—	15
Pail closets converted into w.c.'s	—	—
Dry dustbins provided	431	64
„ „ in lieu of ashpits abolished ...	75	16
Dilapidations repaired (including roofs, ceilings, walls and floors)	24	38
Yards, passages or pavements repaired	318	—
Defective light and ventilation	7	—
Dirty premises limewashed and cleansed	26	—
Over-crowding of dwellings abated	—	—
Nuisances abated from keeping animals and fowls ...	39	—
Smoke nuisances abated	—	—
Manure and refuse removed	34	—
Miscellaneous	282	10
Total of defects remedied or nuisances abated ...	2,618	230

Table showing premises inspected, notices served, complaints registered, notices complied with, etc.:—

Number of complaints registered	...	...	...	...	297
„ premises inspected	...	...	...	...	3,111
„ workshops inspected (F. and W. A.)	...	...	...	...	311
„ informal notices served...	...	...	...	...	1,080
„ „ „ complied with	...	...	...	...	1,480
„ notices served	...	...	...	...	204
„ „ „ complied with	...	...	...	...	187
„ inspections	...	...	...	...	5,927
„ houses inspected under Housing and Town Planning Act	...	...	...	...	501
„ houses inspected in which defects were found and office notices served	...	...	...	...	291
„ houses inspected in which defects were remedied without serving Closing Order	...	...	...	...	171
„ cases of infectious diseases investigated	...	...	...	...	.284
„ articles of clothing, etc., disinfected	...	...	...	...	17,854

Summary of Food Inspection.

The duties include the inspection of meat, fish, fruit, cowsheds and dairies, and all wholesale and retail premises where food is sold or prepared for sale.

SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED :—

RECOMMENDED AND DESTROYED.							Tons	cwts.	lbs.	
Beef	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	74
Mutton	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	2
Pork	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	87
Edible organs	...	...	...	..	...	...	1	1	91
Tinned fruit and vegetables				...	...	...	0	2	104
Fish and game	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	9	35
Shell fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	80
Fruit (green)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	7
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	14	0
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	12
Corned beef	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	84
TOTAL							...	7	14	16

The following statement shows the number of carcasses surrendered in addition to the above :—

Cows	...	...	...	5 Tuberculous
Heifers	...	...	...	1 „
Bullocks	...	...	...	2 „
Sheep	...	...	...	7 Decomposed
Pigs	...	...	...	1 Uræmia and Tuberculous
Pigs	...	...	...	1 Liver Disease, Icterus and Dropsy

Summary of Premises Inspected.

Slaughter-houses, butchers' and provision shops, and meat factories	...	...	...	...	...	1,053 visits
Dairies and cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	211 „

The Markets are also regularly inspected each Market Day, and very little cause for complaint has arisen.

B. ALLMAN.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Total number of workshops on the Register	...	...	...	195
Inspections made to workshops and factories	...	...	...	218

Four notices of occupation and two notices of nuisances have been received from H.M. Inspector during the year.

The following Table gives the sanitary defects found in workshops, workplaces and factories :—

Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Sanitary accommodation insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ unsuitable or defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ roofs, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL							23

Six outworkers' lists were received from employers, notifying fifty-five outworkers.

All the outworkers' premises were inspected at least once during the year.

No case of infectious disease was notified at any of the outworkers' premises during the year.

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3.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	51
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
(<i>a</i>) by owners	47
(<i>b</i>) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	2,232
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	
(<i>a</i>) by owners	2,219
(<i>b</i>) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... ..	0
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

Need of Houses.

It is a matter for congratulation that the number of houses erected during the year has been considerably in excess of those erected last year. The supply is, however, much below the demand, and unfortunately this housing shortage is leading to a very large amount of overcrowding.

Large numbers of applications are being constantly received from would-be householders in the Borough, and one can readily imagine also that if the provision of houses were better, Mansfield would attract to itself a very much larger population. As it is there are many who would prefer to live here who have to secure accommodation outside the Borough.

This lack of sufficient housing accommodation also acts as a deterrent in dealing with those old and worn out premises which are detrimental to the health of the occupants.

GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Conversion of Privy Middens and Pail Closets.—In conjunction with the Chief Sanitary Inspector, I have examined and reported on those premises where it was considered that the closet accommodation was insufficient for the necessities of the inhabitants of the building, or was in such a state as to create a nuisance, or to be injurious to health.

I have also carried out a detailed inspection of those premises where pail closets have been provided instead of water-closets which might now be reasonably converted to the water-carriage system, sewerage and water supply being reasonably available.

Following these reports an offer to convert on payment by the owner of £4 per pail-closet has been sent out in each case.

It is hoped that the result of this offer will mean the replacement of all convertible conveniences throughout the Borough.

Slaughter-Houses.—Thirteen slaughter-houses are at present occupied in the Borough.

One registered slaughter-house was closed.

The majority of those in use are not only unsuitable for the purpose, but are also seriously overcrowded.

It would seem to me that the only solution to the present unsatisfactory conditions would be the provision of a public abattoir. This matter has already been laid before the Ministry of Health, but a decision has not yet been arrived at.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.—A Disinfecting Station is provided at the Destructor Works, equipped with a Washington Lyons high pressure steam disinfecter.

All clothing and bedding disinfection is carried out here, following upon the occurrence of infectious disease.

In all cases of death from Tuberculosis and from Cancer, an Inspector calls and offers disinfection of clothing and bedding as required, in addition to disinfection of the house. This is in practically every case accepted.

In an adjoining room a bath (with steam pipe heater) is provided, so that persons requiring disinfestation may have the body cleansed simultaneously with the disinfection and sterilisation of their clothing.

Municipal Services Exhibition.—The Public Health Department was represented at this Exhibition which was held in October, 1924. A display was made of sanitary and ventilating appliances, also methods of rat destruction with exhibition of models.

The Infants Welfare Section also exhibited.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act and the Milk and Cream Regulations.—The County Council are the Authority for the carrying out of the provisions of the above Acts.

By the courtesy of the Chief Analyst to the Nottinghamshire County Council I submit a report of the result of the analyses of

articles of food taken within the Borough of Mansfield during the year 1924.

Articles			Samples	Correct	Incorrect	Result
Butter	...	...	2	2	—	Genuine
Brandy	...	...	2	2	—	„
Cocoa	...	...	2	2	—	„
Coffee	...	...	2	2	—	„
Citrate of Magnesia			1	1	—	„
Castor Oil	...	...	1	1	—	„
Cream, preserved	...		3	3	—	„
Flour	...	...	2	1	1	1 Adulterated
Flour, self-raising	...		1	1	—	Genuine
Ground Ginger	...		1	1	—	„
Gin	...	...	3	2	1	1 Adulterated
Lard	...	...	2	2	—	Genuine
Margarine	...	...	2	2	—	„
Milk	...	...	67	57	10	10 Adulterated
Olive Oil	...	...	1	1	—	Genuine
Pepper	...	...	1	1	—	„
Rum	...	...	2	1	1	1 Adulterated
Sausages, beef	...		1	1	—	Genuine
Sponge Cake	...		1	1	—	„
Syrup of Figs	...		1	1	—	„
Whisky	...	...	11	11	—	„
Baking Powder	...		2	2	—	„
Vinegar	...	...	1	1	—	„
Cheese, Cheshire	...		1	1	—	„

Number of Informal Samples of Milk tested by Inspectors by “Gerber” Tester :—

	Correct	Incorrect	Total
Number of samples taken by Inspectors...	187	10	197
Number submitted by milk retailers and producers to the Inspectors	631	8	639
Number taken at farms	4	6	10
TOTALS ...	822	24	846

Smoke Abatement.—Observations are regularly made in cases of those chimneys known to be liable to over-pollution of the air.

An over-production of smoke is often more due to the stoker than to the construction of the chimney.

The observation is taken over a period of one hour, keeping a time record of periods noted under the headings:—

Black smoke,
Moderately black smoke,
Slight smoke or none.

These periods are then added so as to judge whether the emission of black smoke is so excessive as to constitute a nuisance.

In ordinary cases of fault a visit is made to the manager or owner of the works, pointing out the grounds of complaint. This usually leads to an improvement.

In more serious cases the usual procedure of dealing with a “nuisance” is followed.

One factory kept under observation during the year are installing new engines, which, it is estimated, will reduce the number of boilers required and coal consumption by 50 %. It is anticipated that air pollution will be correspondingly reduced.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Births.—The following Table will show the number of births registered during the year:—

	Males	Females	TOTAL
Residents... ..	486	462	948
Non-Residents ...	17	12	29
	503	474	977

The nett figures contributed by the Registrar-General as belonging to the Borough are:—

Males	Females	TOTAL
492	470	962

Notification of Births Act, 1907.—983 births were notified under the above Act.

18 cases were unnotified, of which 10 were attended by doctors and eight by midwives. This is equivalent to 98% notification of all births occurring in the Borough.

Illegitimacy.—During the year 42 illegitimate births were registered. This is 4.3% of all births.

Still-births.—50 cases of still-birth were notified during the year.

Infant Deaths under one year.—The total number of deaths during the year was 78, of which 49 were males and 29 females; of these five were illegitimate. The infantile mortality-rate was 82.1 per 1,000 children born. This infantile death-rate is lower than that of last year (92.9), but above that of the country as a whole, which was 75 per 1,000.

As long as our own figure is higher than the corresponding rate for the country it cannot be considered as being at all satisfactory. The chief classified causes of death were :—

- (1) *Prematurity*.—This is not in itself a morbid condition, but must be regarded as a predisposing element. Children born before their time are much more difficult to rear in every way. As to why the parent should bring forth her offspring before the fortieth week of conception, probably the greatest factor is the condition of her own health. It is for this reason that ignorance of the parent as regards the proper care of pregnancy must be combated by means of instruction in clinics to make secure the birth of a healthy infant. The mother's general health, exercise and nutrition all demand attention while she is passing through the period of expectant motherhood.

The infant born prematurely is of low vitality. Its feeding is difficult on account of weak digestion, and, not sufficiently protected by fat, it finds difficulty in maintaining the normal body heat. Hence the frequency with which we find that these weakly infants can but survive a very short period, especially where home conditions cannot provide the meticulous care requisite for their survival.

- (2) *Bronchitis*.—This condition is very fatal to child life, especially when it occurs in over-crowded and ill-ventilated homes.

Improper feeding, which induces Rickety conditions, is the important predisposing cause.

- (3) *Convulsions*.—The big causative factor is improper feeding. When the tissues of the body are badly nourished the nervous system is also bound to suffer.

The most important preventive measures are those which underlie correct feeding, such as regulation of the amount of food and the frequency with which it is administered.

The distribution of infantile deaths by Wards will be found in the following Table:—

North Ward (including Pleasley Hill)	...	27
South „	... ..	25
East „	... ..	26
		<hr/>
TOTAL	... ..	78
		<hr/>
Pleasley Hill alone	... ..	3

Deaths of Illegitimate Children.—Five deaths occurred during the year. This gives a rate of 119.0 based on 1,000 illegitimate children born.

Attendances.—The attendances at the Afternoon Weighing Clinics were as follows:—

LEEMING STREET (Total Sessions 98):—					Numbers attending	Number of attendances
Infants	...	...	...	...	581	4,086
Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	14	49
Nursing	„	...	...	...	18	20
Children, one to five years	...	...	...	...	600	1,932
					<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	1,213	6,087

PLEASLEY HILL (Total Sessions 48):—						
Infants	...	...	...	...	111	1,714
Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	30	82
Nursing	„	...	...	...	38	59
Children, one to five years	...	...	...	...	132	1,441
					<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	311	3,296
					<hr/>	<hr/>
School cases	...	...	...	...	74	156

Attendances at the Medical Officer's Consultations:—

					MANSFIELD	PLEASLEY HILL
Infants	...	...	...	...	399	207
Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	9	20
Nursing	„	...	...	...	44	22
Children, one to five years	...	...	...	...	390	135
					<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	842	384
					<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Number of Afternoon Sessions held					44	23

In addition to the above attendances, 234 children made 1,494 attendances at the Treatment Centre.

The total number of attendances made during the year were:—

Cases attending	Number of attendances
1,758	10,877

Treatment provided at Centres:—

	Numbers attending	Number of attendances
Infants, Ophthalmic cases ...	43	452
„ other cases	89	301
Children, one to five years, Ophthalmic cases... ..	26	573
Children, one to five years, other cases	72	150
Expectant Mothers	2	4
Nursing „	2	14
TOTALS	234	1,494

Health Visitors' Visits.—The number of visits paid by Health Visitors during the year were as follows:—

Visits to Infants	5,826
„ Children, one to five years	1,877
„ Expectant Mothers	204
„ Special cases (^{Measles and} Whooping-cough)	41
Investigation of Still-Births	48
„ Infant Deaths (seven in hospital)	71
Visits to cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	12
Miscellaneous visits	165
Special Nursing Cases	81
TOTAL	8,325

Demonstrations.—Five demonstrations were given of washing and dressing babies and cot making to mothers and senior girls.

Feeding of Necessitous Mothers.—During the year the scheme for providing dinners for necessitous, expectant and nursing mothers, during the last three months of pregnancy and first six months of lactation, was continued.

2,459 dinners were served to 24 mothers.

1,618 dinners were provided for children one to five years old.

Total number of Dinner Sessions, 246.

Venereal Diseases.—During the year four cases were sent for consultation to the Venereal Diseases Clinic from the Infant Welfare Centre. Of these, two gave a positive result and two proved negative. Treatment was carried out in the former cases.

Treatment of Eye Conditions.—19 cases attending the Infant Welfare Centre were referred to Dr. A. Christie Reid for examination and necessary treatment.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—The following Table will show the incidence of this affection, and the result of treatment:—

Notified	C A S E S					Deaths
	Treated		Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	
	At home	Hospital, Infant Wel- fare Centre				
13	Nil	13	13	Nil	Nil	Nil

Ward distribution of Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases notified:—

North Ward	...	...	...	...	...	5
South „	...	...	...	...	...	3
East „	...	...	...	...	...	5
Pleasley Hill	...	...	...	...	...	0
TOTAL					...	13

10 cases were notified by your Medical Officer and three by private practitioners. 12 cases were attended by midwives and one occurred in hospital.

Midwives.—There are 12 practising midwives in the Borough. 11 are certificated and one is registered. These come under the supervision of the Nottinghamshire County Council.

Deaths in Child-birth.—The number of women dying in or in consequence of child-birth was four. Two of these were due to Puerperal Sepsis.

Maternity Bed.—13 patients were admitted during the year to the bed in the Mansfield and District Hospital retained for the use of complicated cases of pregnancy.

The cases admitted to this bed were:—Hyperemesis 2, Placenta Prævia 3, Contracted Pelvis 2, Antepartum Hæmorrhage 3, Albuminuria 1, Heart Disease 2. The cost of treatment amounted to £89 : 4 : 1.

Progress of Welfare Work.—The following Table will give a comparative idea of the number of mothers and children availing themselves of the Welfare Centres:—

1915	—	Number attending	262	;	Number of attendances	1,110
1916		„	„		391	„ „ 2,801
1917		„	„		514	„ „ 4,713
1918		„	„		859	„ „ 6,441
1919		„	„		934	„ „ 5,263
1920		„	„		1,330	„ „ 7,887
1921		„	„		1,663	„ „ 11,410
1922		„	„		1,702	„ „ 10,498
1923		„	„		1,873	„ „ 10,946
1924		„	„		1,758	„ „ 10,877

The slight reduction in the attendances this year has probably been due to the fact that I have not been able to attend on several occasions owing to the additional work involved in dealing with the Small-pox outbreak.

Carburton Home.—During the year eight cases from Mansfield were admitted to this home. The children selected for this purpose

are below five years of age, and are usually those who suffer from the effects of malnutrition. Each child is seen by me on its return, and very marked benefit has been noted in every case.

One can scarcely appreciate the amount of good which may result as a consequence of placing a delicate child under such favourable conditions at an early stage in its life.

This treatment is provided free of cost by the generosity of Her Grace the Duchess of Portland.

Voluntary assistance in the Centres.—Our Infants Welfare movement owes a great debt to the voluntary workers who give up so much of their time in assisting the Health Visitors and their staff.

The Catering Committee meet regularly and make all the necessary arrangements for the provision of dinners. Other volunteers assist with the teas which are a regular feature of each session.

The Catering Committee have been much indebted to Her Grace the Duchess of Portland for the regular supply of foodstuffs from Welbeck Abbey. This generous contribution has assisted them in keeping down the actual cost of the dinners provided for the mothers.

The Sewing and Knitting Classes under Miss Gibson and Miss Wakefield have also had very successful sessions. An exhibition of the work done is held at the conclusion of the classes.

Municipal Services Exhibition.—The Infants Welfare Section demonstrated methods of children's clothing, right and wrong methods of feeding, care of the teeth, and models of simple methods of cot construction.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION AND THE TREATMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The Forest Hospital for Infectious Diseases has been described in detail in the previous Reports.

The cases of Infectious Disease receiving treatment during the year were:—

			Number in Hospital, Dec. 31st, 1923	Admissions	Discharges	Deaths	Remaining in Hospital, Dec. 31st, 1924
Scarlet Fever	...	...	24	128	130	3	19
Diphtheria	...	...	4	51	49	2	4
Erysipelas	...	...	1	2	2	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica			—	1	—	1	—
Unclassified*	...	...	—	3	3	—	—

* Cases where the diagnosis was not confirmed.

The total number of patients under treatment during the year was 214.

The average stay in hospital of Scarlet Fever was 46.6 days, and of Diphtheria 35.0 days.

The average cost of food per head per day, patients and staff, was 1/0.5d., as compared with 1/2.6d. in 1923.

No infectious illness occurred amongst the staff of the Hospital during the year.

Deaths in Hospital.—Three cases of Scarlet Fever proved fatal. Of these one was a case of severe Septic Scarlet Fever. In the other two cases there were Pulmonary complications, one of the patients dying of Pneumonia and the other of rapid Consumption of the Lungs.

Two deaths were attributable to Diphtheria, one of these occurring 14 hours after admission to hospital.

No case of Laryngeal Diphtheria was admitted during the year.

The death recorded as due to Erysipelas occurred in a child eight months old suffering from congenital cancer of the bone, so that her death may be considered as due to the malignant condition present.

A severe case of Encephalitis Lethargica also died three days after admission.

Hospital Accommodation.—This subject has engaged the attention of your Medical Officer during the year on account of the fact that the accommodation has been so fully occupied.

The following Table will show how the Hospital has been occupied during the last 10 years :—

Years	Population	SCARLET FEVER				DIPHTHERIA				Total No. of patients treated	Patient days	Patients in Hospital : Daily Average
		Total No. of cases notified	Attack rate per 1000 population	No. of cases admitted to Hospital	% of total notifications	Cases notified	Attack rate per 1000	Admission to Hospital	% of notification			
1915	40,208	148	3.6	63	42.6	87	2.1	5	5.7	84	—	—
1916	41,038	134	3.2	87	64.9	130	3.1	9	6.9	103	3932	10.8
1917	41,868	80	1.9	55	68.7	60	1.4	35	58.3	110	4206	11.5
1918	42,698	47	1.1	44	93.6	37	0.8	30	81.0	95	4219	11.6
1919	43,528	52	1.1	47	90.4	54	1.2	37	68.5	95	3537	9.7
1920	44,358	77	1.7	63	81.8	54	1.2	39	72.2	130	4173	11.3
1921	45,190	257	5.7	171	66.5	33	0.7	27	81.8	212	7473	20.5
1922	46,020	109	2.3	82	75.2	34	0.7	30	88.2	154	6403	17.3
1923	46,850	106	2.2	96	90.6	43	0.9	39	90.7	158	7122	19.5
1924	47,680	139	2.9	128	92.1	56	1.1	51	91.0	214	8675	23.7

Conclusions from the above Table :—

While the attack-rate has not increased, the number of admissions has largely increased, and the percentage of cases of the disease removed to hospital has also increased.

Total number of persons treated in 1924 is the highest on record ; also the total number of patient days is the highest recorded.

The daily average of patients in Hospital is also the highest on record.

During 1924 the Hospital has often been working at its fullest capacity, and it would seem to me that if the increase of the past few years should continue, the question of further hospital provision must be considered.

Puerperal Fever.—During the year three cases of this disease were notified; all of these received treatment in the Mansfield and District Hospital.



TABLE I.
Vital Statistics of whole District during 1924 and previous years.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births			Total Deaths registered in the District		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	At all ages		Under One year of age	
			Number	Rate			Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1000 nett Births
1919	44447	981	963	20.8	594	13.3	476	10.7	91	94.5
1920	46219	1303	1291	27.9	496	10.7	415	9.0	135	104.6
1921	45190	1182	1163	25.7	578	12.8	490	10.8	91	78.2
1922	45770	1010	991	21.6	525	11.4	416	9.0	61	61.5
1923	46270	1028	1012	21.9	619	13.3	492	10.6	94	92.9
1924	46760	977	962	20.5	594	12.7	461	9.8	78	82.1

Total Population at all ages 46,760
Number of inhabited houses 9,496
Average number of persons per house 4.9

TABLE II.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1924.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT												TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY				TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL	
	At all ages	At Ages—years											North Ward, including Pleasley Hill	Pleasley Hill alone	South Ward	East Ward		
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65						65 and over
Small-pox ..	85	1	—	1	2	4	25	20	10	10	1	11	—	10	—	12	63	85
Scarlet Fever ..	137	2	2	2	14	8	52	34	13	9	1	—	—	39	1	39	59	128
Diphtheria ..	55	—	—	1	1	6	20	15	3	7	1	1	—	17	2	24	14	51
Enteric Fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	5	1	3	—	7	2	2
Puerperal Fever ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	2	—	—	1	3
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	2	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	13	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	3	5	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	47	—	2	—	—	—	3	7	8	18	3	5	—	23	—	14	10	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	15	—	1	1	1	—	2	4	2	1	1	1	—	7	—	5	3	—
Pneumonia ..	26	—	—	1	2	2	4	—	1	3	3	9	1	14	7	6	6	—
Chicken-pox..	309	15	14	17	26	44	170	15	6	1	—	1	—	152	62	74	83	—
TOTALS ..	710	31	19	26	46	64	280	95	45	56	13	33	2	276	72	185	249	270

TABLE IV.: INFANT MORTALITY.

1924.—Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages
under One year.

CAUSE OF DEATH				Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	TOTAL DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR
ALL CAUSES	Certified	..	..	26	5	2	1	34	13	15	8	5	75
	Uncertified	..	..	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
1	Measles	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	Whooping-cough	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
3	Diphtheria	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Influenza	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
5	Erysipelas	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Tuberculosis, Intest.	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
8	Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
9	Syphilis	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
10	Rickets	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
11	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	Convulsions	..	..	1	1	1	—	3	2	3	—	—	8
13	Bronchitis	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	1	—	10
14	Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	—	1	—	—	1	2	2	2	—	7
15	Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	Gastritis	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	Diarrhœa	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	5
18	Hernia, Intestinal Obstruction	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
19	Malformation	..	..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
20	Debility, Sclerema	..	..	—	1	1	—	2	2	1	—	3	8
21	Icterus	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22	Premature Birth	..	..	18	—	—	1	19	—	—	—	—	19
23	Injury at Birth	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24	Disease of Umbilicus	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	Atelectasis	..	..	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
26	Lack of Care	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27	Suffocation, in bed	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
28	Other violence	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29	Other causes	..	..	6	1	—	—	7	—	—	1	—	8
TOTALS				28	5	2	1	36	14	15	8	5	78

TABLE V.
Birth-rate, Death-rate and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1924.
(Provisional figures. Populations estimated to the middle of 1924 have been used for the purposes of this Table.)

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS		
		All causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping-cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis, under 2 years	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.12	0.02	0.10	0.06	0.49	0.44	7.3	75
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ..	19.4	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.18	0.03	0.12	0.08	0.45	0.4	9.2	80
157 Smaller Towns (1921 adjusted Populations 20,000 –50,000) ..	18.9	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.09	0.06	0.50	0.36	6.2	71
London	18.7	12.1	0.01	—	0.29	0.03	0.11	0.12	0.36	0.44	8.4	69
MANSFIELD	20.5	9.8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.15	0.06	0.34	0.40	7.2	82.1

